

trust

IS THE CURRENCY
OF THE
KINGDOM

JULY 2017

Dear Partner,

I have been teaching about giving this year and have come to understand something that is vital to the body of Christ. You have always been so supportive of this ministry, and I need to make sure you grasp this truth: **Financial giving to the kingdom of God is *always* about trust and never about money!** You might wonder why the church would ever openly talk about money, but please understand if your finances are not rooted in grace, they can become Satan's base of operations and hold you back from everything that God has already prepared for you!

Jesus knew that money was the only thing that could tempt people to trust it instead of him. That's why it's discussed so much in the Bible. **Mark 10:17-30** relates the story of the young man who wanted to inherit eternal life. Though he claimed to have kept all of the commandments of the law since he was a child, Jesus said that he lacked one thing: sell everything that he had and give the money to the poor. **"And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions" (Mark 10:22).** Grief is associated with loss. This young man viewed it as a loss to obey Jesus, and went away from the only one who could provide him with eternal life. Jesus told his disciples that it was hard for people who trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God because partaking of God's kingdom requires complete trust in him. Think about it. People will do things for money that they won't do for God. They get up early to make sure they're not late for work, but won't get

up on Sunday mornings for church. They take out loans for college and spend a lot of their time studying so that they can get a good job making good money, but won't dedicate even a fraction of that time to study God's word and seek his will for their lives. Why? Because they trust that money will be able to get them what they want in life. They are relying on money to secure their future, not God.

Since Paul was the apostle of grace, it is important for us, believers who live by grace, to know what he said about giving. In **Second Corinthians 9:6, 7 (ESV)**, Paul said, **"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."** If you sow a little in proportion to what you have, it indicates that you only trust God a little, and you will only see a little from him. If you sow bountifully, it indicates that you trust God a lot, and you will see a lot from him. However, if you're giving under compulsion it means you're doing it to get something from God, and that's not the relationship he wants to have with you. God wants you to give cheerfully because you love and trust him.

When you are cheerful about giving, **"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8, ESV);** but you cannot be a cheerful giver unless you can fully trust

that God will take care of everything that concerns you. **Trust is the currency of the kingdom of God!** Money can't buy blessings, favor, or anything else from heaven. Trust is necessary to grab hold of the blessings that Jesus' death made available to us. When we give money, the thing the world trusts above all else, to God, we prove to ourselves that we trust God to take care of us, not money. In other words, giving is our loving expression of our trust in God.

I encourage you to read Second Corinthians 9. It tells the results of generous and cheerful giving to the kingdom. The attitude with which you give is more important than the amount, and it will impact every area of your Christian walk.

Love,



Creflo

P.S.

I have enclosed a love gift for you in the form of the message, **The Purpose of Giving**, which you can download quickly and easily by typing bit.ly/JulyPartner in your internet browser. Thank you for being a partner and a friend to our ministry. We appreciate your prayers and support. Please stay in contact with us. As always, we love you very much, and we continue to pray for you.